

MAR 07 2014

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS TO
REPORT A BROADER MEASURE OF THE STATE'S UNEMPLOYMENT RATE
BY REPORTING U-6 FIGURES ALONG SIDE U-3 FIGURES.

1 WHEREAS, currently, the Department of Labor and Industrial
2 Relations is required to report figures on the total unemployed
3 population as a percent of civilian labor force, known as U-3,
4 which is used as the official unemployment rate for the State;
5 and
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7 WHEREAS, according to a report by the Department of Labor
8 and Industrial Relations on January 26, 2014, the average
9 percent of unemployment in Hawaii using U-3 figures for the
10 fourth quarter of 2012 through the third quarter of 2013 was
11 4.8; and
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13 WHEREAS, there are, however, several additional alternative
14 measures of labor utilization, U-6 being the most comprehensive
15 because it includes the total unemployed, plus all marginally
16 attached workers, plus the total employed part-time for economic
17 reasons, as a percent of the civilian labor force plus all
18 marginally attached workers; and
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20 WHEREAS, in the same report by the Department of Labor and
21 Industrial Relations, the average percent of unemployment in
22 Hawaii using U-6 figures for the same time period was 11.3
23 percent; and
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25 WHEREAS, while the Department of Labor and Industrial
26 Relations does report U-6 figures, these figures are often in
27 the technical notes or footnotes; and
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29 WHEREAS, to allow policy makers and analysts to address
30 issues related to unemployment in the State, the most
31 comprehensive figures and statistics need to be easily
32 accessible; now, therefore,



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 2 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-seventh
 3 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2014, the
 4 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of
 5 Labor and Industrial Relations is urged to report a broader
 6 measure of the State's unemployment rate by reporting U-6
 7 figures alongside the U-3 figures in the main text of reports
 8 and press releases related to the State's unemployment rate; and
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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
 11 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Labor
 12 and Industrial Relations.
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OFFERED BY:









